

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
178 South Main Street—P.O. Box 909  
Buffalo, WY 82834

Seeking to know and  
grow in Christ  
through education,  
dedication, and service.

June, 2016



# THE SEEKERS



"Keep alert, stand firm in  
your faith, be courageous, be  
strong. Let all that you do be  
done in love."

...1 Cor. 16:13

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## THOUGHTS FROM FR. DOUG

Hello, fine people of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Here we are, halfway through 2016, and it has been a busy and productive year to date. May has shaped up to be a month of transitions. I want to, first off, say congratulations to all our graduates, starting with our children who are moving from one school to the next, to those who have completed their college degrees and, finally, to those who have completed their graduate studies. They have completed a mighty and powerful work in their lives. I want to also acknowledge all the other supporting people in our student's lives as they too have poured their best efforts into making it possible to educate another generation of people for the future. May God bless all our efforts in helping all people reach their highest calling in life.

Life around St. Luke's is shifting and we are moving into the summer season. The leadership is addressing an important part of our church, our doors. We have applied for a grant from the Foundation of the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming, to help offset the expenses, and I am anticipating a response in the coming month. The Bread of Life Food Pantry continues to provide food and dignity for those who arrive. I want to say thank you for those of you serve as volunteers for stocking the shelves, handing out food, and being a pleasant and friendly person for others. The amount of community support that we receive for this ministry is a sign of God's abundance of love and grace. The Adult Education will continue to learn from Richard Rohr's presentation, *Embracing an Alternative Orthodoxy*, that has expanded the minds, hearts, and understanding of how rich and powerful God can be for all of us. Our Children's Sunday School has recessed for the summer, but THE BOX will remain as a part of our 10 a.m. service. For the next three months, I will be the one who puts an object in the box to share with the children. So, make plans on stopping by on Sunday's and watch the priest stump the kids!

People will read in this monthly newsletter about the announcement that the Episcopal Church Woman's current structure is shifting. The outgoing president has written a nice article, addressing this news. I personally am optimistic about the future. God is ALREADY stirring about and preparing for a new work at St. Luke's. This is a time of intentional prayer and reflecting for this group of faithful women. I know that God will respond, and all of us will be moved and inspired by what we are shown.

As we enjoy all that God has to offer during this time of year, I invite everybody to stop by on Sunday's to share in the fellowship of this beautiful

(Continued on page 2)

*("Thoughts from Fr. Doug" - continued from page 1)*

church. It is nice to see people and to catch up on what is taking place in our lives. As the flow of our lives shifts from one context to another, we can look forward the future and we find comfort in knowing that God is always present in all that we do. I am sure you will find me out and about as I too attend the different activities of 4-H and other community events. Be well and do good work.

Fr. Doug +



When we give ourselves completely to the Lord,  
all other giving becomes easier!



### GROWING THROUGH GIVING

From Finding Hope in Hard Times – written by Stewards in a Slump (2009)

#### KEEP ON GIVING!

The point of this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you can share abundantly in every good work. – (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

It's vital that we continue to give during an economic downturn, and not only because of our faith communities and charities depend on our giving. We give because we need to give. The Holy Spirit is continually at work, shaping and growing our hearts, leading us to reflect the generosity of God's nature, as well as the depths of God's self-giving nature made known in Jesus. As we give, we experience the deeper joy of growing into the full stature of Christ.

**One advantage of thinking about our giving in terms of giving away a percentage of our income is that it helps us adjust our giving as our income goes up or down. When we have less money coming in, we can give less, but do so knowing that our relative generosity is unchanged.**

Action: Review your giving, setting it in the context of your income. Do you know what percentage of your income you give back?

Pause for Reflection: The passage above challenges us to give cheerfully. One way of increasing the joy found from giving is to become deeply aware of how your purpose is aligned with God's purpose of *shalom*, which is the Biblical understanding of peace that comes from living in right relationship with each other and all creation. Understanding your purpose leads to joyful giving.

Fr. Doug +

## PASSING THE TORCH

Words from the Senior Warden



May 15, 2016, Vestry meeting had a very busy agenda with Allison Bodan, Treasurer, walking the Vestry through a review of the Treasurer's report and how the State Dioceses' *Fast Fund* bookkeeping account works. The Vestry was asking questions about the report in the April meeting, and we needed Allison to inform us about how the different accounting categories in *Fast Fund* are set-up. This was a very informative session.

The Vestry is reading and studying the book of "5 Keys For Church Leaders"; we are on key 3, which focuses on building new membership. New membership is a big goal for St. Luke's!! Vestry Members, Father Doug, JoAnn Pearson/Sr. Warden and Dale Anderson/Jr. Warden are working on a grant, through the Foundation for the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming. Our goal for this grant is to increase our membership. This grant will pay 2/3 of the cost to beautify the exterior condition of our church. 1. Refinish and weather seal the church front doors and Onderdonk Hall front doors 2. Scrape, seal and repaint front outside of church entrance 3. Repair the rock wall along the sidewalk in front of Jubilee Hall. We all appreciate and draw a positive conclusion about our church, if it is well maintained!! Seekers of a new church often draw their conclusion within 5 minutes of their first visit. This grant will be submitted in June for the July 1, 2016 deadline.

We have been blessed with lovely rains! St. Luke's landscape looks so green and well trimmed after Dale Anderson got the tree trimmers to work on many of the trees and bushes (money used from the Doyle Kincaid donation). Father Doug and his daughters did some leaf raking and trimmed several small bushes also! It takes a church family to make a church run well!!!

JoAnn Pearson

Sr. Warden/St. Luke's Episcopal Church

## DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO SERVE?



If so, your church needs you!

St. Luke's offers a number of different ministries, all of which are happy to welcome new members. Among those are:

- |                           |                |                 |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Food Pantry Volunteers | 4. Lay Readers | 7. Holy Folders |
| 2. Altar Guild            | 5. Lectors     | 8. Acolytes     |
| 3. Ushers/Greeters        | 6. Choir       |                 |

If you feel that God is speaking to your heart about becoming more involved in your church, please pray about these opportunities. For more information about these positions, or to offer yourself in service, please contact the Church Office at 684-7529 or email [stlukeswyo@gmail.com](mailto:stlukeswyo@gmail.com)

Don't see an area for which you feel suited? Visit with Fr. Doug. There's a place at St. Luke's for the gifts you have to offer. *Together, we'll find it!*



## JUNE IS "OUR MONTH" FOR MEALS ON WHEELS!

This month St. Luke's will deliver *Meals on Wheels*, an incredibly important outreach to the elderly and shut-ins in our community. Those who volunteer to deliver find themselves delivering so much more than meals alone; they also deliver a friendly greeting and provide needed contact with the "outside world." They become the face and voice of God's caring and concern. This is just one of the many ministries in which St. Luke's and our parishioners serve out Christ's admonition to care for the poor, homeless, and ill, as well as the downtrodden and those denied justice.

As this is being written (mid-May), there are a number of people who have already signed up, and many have volunteered for more than just one day of delivery. With heartfelt gratitude, we say *Thank you* to each of them. You bless us by your service and example! That being said, **we still have a number of vacant slots to fill. We need YOUR help.** Please check the sign-up sheet in Onderdonk Hall or call Linda Clark at 684-2141. You will find yourself blessed while you're being a blessing to others!



WELCOMING  
THE TRAVELERS  
AND VACATIONERS!



SERVICES  
at  
ST. CHRISTOPHER'S  
CHAPEL in-the-Big Horns  
will begin

SUNDAY, JULY 3rd,  
AT 11 A.M.

(St. Christopher's Chapel is located  
approximately 2 miles east of  
Meadowlark, on Hwy. 16 W.)



## NEED TO CONTACT FR. DOUG?



Office Hours:  
Monday—Thursday  
9:30 A.M.—Noon

Address: 513 E. Hart Street  
Cell/Text: 307-620-0061  
Day Off: Friday

Please feel free to use this number!



## ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH REPORT OF INCOME/EXPENSE

Our financial status as of the end of April, 2016,  
is as follows:

Income:	10,276.37
Expenses:	-15,630.62
Gain/loss	<u>(-5,354.25)</u>

Questions?  
Contact Treasur-  
er Allison Bodan  
at 620-9031.



## ECW IS a-CHANGING!



A wise man told me, "Things aren't the way they used to be and they never will be again." Sadly we were talking about the state of world and closer to home, our own women's ECW.

Our active membership fits this situation as, due to circumstances, health, our ages, etc. we are unable to continue our ECW as it has been since 1889.

Many women's organizations, including St. Peter's in Sheridan and the Catholic Church in Buffalo, have disbanded their monthly meetings and have proceeded to go in new directions. This is what will probably happen with us.

At our last meeting we voted to spend the summer months researching how other churches handle this transition, pondering where we fit in all this, and where we go from here. In September we will have a meeting to share what the summer has shown us; and I hope ALL of you women will come to that meeting, share your thoughts, and help us as we ponder all this.

It is with great sadness that I write this, but with excitement as we look forward to the new journey on which the Lord is taking us .


The thing that encourages me is the scripture I "just coincidentally" was led to.:

*Isaiah 43:19 "Forget all that is past. It is nothing compared to what I am going to do; for I am going to do a brand new thing. See" I have already begun. Don't you see it?"*

*I pray we all see it!!*

Sincerely,

Louise Anderson, Outgoing ECW President

 "God  
without  
man  
is  
still  
God.  
Man  
without  
God  
is  
nothing."

...Pulpit Helps



## THANK YOU, ECW!

As the Episcopal Church Women of St. Luke's look to the future and ponder the course of women's ministry in our particular body, we wish to thank our St. Luke's women for another year of "stepping up" in so many areas, doing what they do best: *serving*. Whatever has been asked of them, they have responded willingly and faithfully. Ladies of ECW, we salute you!

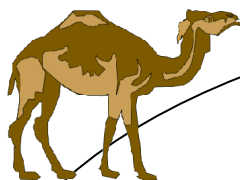
We also wish to thank the retiring ECW officers for their leadership and service. We offer our gratitude and deepest appreciation to President Louise Anderson, Vice President Nikki Ellis, Secretary Linda Clark, and Treasurer Debbie Slaybaugh. Thanks to their faithful efforts, this amazing group of women enjoyed another successful year of giving and service.

We also offer a special word of thanks to the Reception Committee, for an outstanding job of ministry during times of both gladness and sorrow. Your dedication to offering this vital outreach is an humbling example of what true service is all about. We are ever grateful to Donna Naill, Jo Ann McKenzie, Mary Gammon, & Pam McFadden.

*Thank you, St. Luke's ECW. May God bless and reward each of you.*







# COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 6-10 \*\*\*\*\* 5:45—7:45 P.M.

## EGYPT—JOSEPH'S JOURNEY

Summit Wesleyan Church

(For ages 4 years through 5th Grade).

To register: Go to Summit's Facebook page  
or find registration forms posted in Onderdonk Hall.



### PLEASE HELP US OUT!

We are asking you to please check the **coats etc.** in the hall by the kitchen, to see if any of those that are hanging there might belong to YOU. If so, please take them home with you.

We also have **dishes** by the kitchen door that need to be claimed!

Thank you for your help with this!



### VOLUNTEERS ARE REALLY NEEDED!

Director Louise Anderson is busy lining up special music for the 10 A.M. Services this summer. Do you sing? Play? Know someone who does? *Please share your talent for the glory of God!* (Groups are welcome!) A sign-up sheet will be posted in Onderdonk Hall.

If you (or a friend or relative) would like to volunteer, or if you have questions, just contact Louise Anderson at 684-7907 or e-mail her at [weezndale@yahoo.com](mailto:weezndale@yahoo.com)

"We can be so inoculated  
with small doses  
of Christianity  
that we can't catch  
the real thing."

...St. Paul's Church,  
Shreveport, Diocese of Western LA



### THANK YOU, CHOIR!

Sunday, May 22nd, was the last Sunday for St. Luke's Choir to sing at the 10 A.M. Service, until next fall. As they enjoy their well-deserved summer's rest, we wish to thank these talented and hard-working people for their service in the important ministry of helping to lead our worship. We also offer our heartfelt thanks to Director Louise Anderson and Organist Emily Whipple.

These two gifted ladies are such a blessing!



Again, Choir, our thanks to each of you. We wish you a time of rest and refreshment, and we look forward to your return in September!

### ECW Minutes—May 11, 2016

After opening group prayer, lunch and entertainment began. Dr. Mark Schueler and Marcy Schueler played and sang while quiche, salad and ice cream sundae's were served. Louise presented a devotion. Guests Claire Estes and Shirley Jacob's daughter in law, Michelle Jacob, and granddaughter Rein Jacob were introduced by Shirley.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A thank you letter from Kathleen McPhee was read, regarding our monetary participation in the August 13<sup>th</sup> Bike-a-Thon for MS. An invitation for dinner from *Cathedral Home for Children* was passed around.

Placemats were signed for Bev Edgerton and Charlotte Eastwood.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Slaybaugh presented the April treasurer's report. The checking balance was \$5934 and the Savings balance \$3885.49. A bill was presented for one of the baby changing tables installed by Mike Hanson. A complete report can be seen in the minutes book. Nancy Straight was named as the new Treasurer.

#### Old Business:

Prayer Shawl: Marge Millhouse said that Jo Ann McKenzie presented a prayer shawl to Frances Campbell's neighbor.

Shirley and Cheri Martini presented more information regarding the MS Bike-a-Thon that will go through Buffalo on August 13<sup>th</sup> 2016. Shirley announced that her niece, Melanie Mc Fee, who lives with MS, has just published a book for people who suffer from MS, other chronic problems and the chronically busy. It is available on Amazon

It was approved to donate \$100.00 for the hot dogs and buns for the Bike-a-Thon for MS

#### New Business:

Louise presented a dilemma regarding continuation of ECW as it is now constituted. She challenged the group to think over the summer of new ways to structure the group. It was mentioned that not many churches have a women's group that meets monthly or that does the work of the church in the way we still do it. The Women of the Church began in 1873 when they started a Sunday school. Since that time the women have played a vital role in the work of the church and ministry. Louise ended her emotional presentation with a quote from Isaiah 43-19: "Forget all that is past. It is nothing compared to what I am going to do: for I am going to do a brand new thing. See: I have already begun don't you see it? "

Helen Crain moved and it was approved to meet again in September with Fr. Doug chairing, to discuss ways to transition to another form.

Fr. Doug ended the meeting with words of comfort and wisdom. He feels that God is putting us in a place to do something spectacular. He is setting us up to do something grander. Fr. Doug reminded us of the time of Jesus' Ascension, when he said, "I am leaving you so that you can do something bigger." (paraphrased)

Nancy Straight was appointed Treasurer to replace Debbie Slaybaugh.

Linda Clark, Secretary



## A FATHER'S ABC'S

**A**lways trust your children to God's care.  
**B**ring them to church.  
**C**hallenge them to high goals.  
**D**elight in their achievements.  
**E**xalt the Lord in their presence.  
**F**rown on evil.  
**G**ive them love.  
**H**ear their problems.  
**I**gnore not their childish fears.  
**J**oyfully accept their childish apologies.  
**K**eep their confidences.  
**L**ive a good example before them.  
**M**ake them your friends.  
**N**ever ignore their endless questions.  
**O**pen your heart to their love.  
**P**ray for them by name.  
**Q**icken your interest in their spirituality.  
**R**emember their needs.  
**S**how them the way of salvation.  
**T**each them to work.  
**U**nderstand they are still young.  
**V**erify your statements.  
**W**ean them from bad company.  
**X**pect them to obey.  
**Y**earn for God's best for them.  
**Z**ealously guide them in Bible truth.



...Borrowed

## Worship Team Meeting May 17<sup>th</sup> 2016

The meeting was opened with a prayer from Fr. Doug. Saints present were: Mary Gammon, Karen Walker, Louise Anderson, Linda Clark, Nancy Bartlett, Nancy Straight and Fr. Doug.

### Summer Schedule

The calendar for June was reviewed. There will continue to be 2 services throughout the summer, at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Adult Sunday school will continue at 9 a.m.. Because the choir will be on sabbatical, Louise asks for persons with musical ability to volunteer their talents for a Sunday. Please contact Louise if you are able.

There will be two memorial receptions during the month.

We will not be serving St. Christopher's in the Mountain this summer, due to lack of leaders.

**Children:** A children's sermon time will continue through the summer with Fr. Doug presenting the BOX to the children and each leaving the altar steps with a surprise.

Fr. Doug is planning a Child/Parent Instructional Eucharist for some evening in the summer. This is planned to be an informal service especially for the children, to explain the various parts of the service and the parts of the altar. More information will be coming.

**Fr. Doug** discussed a book he is reading: "The Five Keys". The theme emphasizes "Tending to the Doors", having symbolically a BIG entrance to the church and a SMALL exit. The author thinks that most of our growth will come from the unchurched and studies indicate that when they look for a church they want liturgy and tradition. He challenged us to think about what shining moments in worship were for us. Answers included the sermon, the children's BOX, communion, and music.

Fr. Doug sent congratulatory letters to all of the graduates with a connection to St. Luke's. There was one response from a graduate-Jack Killian. There will be a reception for Jack.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Linda Clark







### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

*"I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God  
while I have my being."* ...Psalm 104:33

Elliot Mead (6/1), Zachary Jerry (6/1), Kevin Skaggs (6/1),  
Pitchie Gammon (6/3), Jerry Eastwood (6/4), Rosi Schroth (6/4),  
Fr. John Meyer (6/5), Terri Joy (6/6), Debbie Millhouse (6/6), Adam Ratcliff (6/7),  
Carter Millhouse (6/11), Lilian Axt (6/13), Leishaan Crane (6/13),  
Tracey Ostheimer (6/14), Richie Griffith (6/14), Karen Walker (6/15),  
Hazel Eklund (6/15), Jack Killian (6/16), Kerri Pope (6/17),  
Marian Sarantha (6/17), Jeff Philpott (6/18), Lexie Shambaugh (6/18),  
Kohen Money (6/18), David Anderson (6/19), Chris Boggs (6/19),  
Aaron Wuerker (6/20), Doug Ratcliff (6/21), Joshua Gray (6/21),  
Tobiah de la Fuente (6/21), Tyler Atwill (6/22), Houston Eli Marso (6/24),  
Bart Green (6/25), Verna Walker (6/25), Jerad Anderson (6/25),  
John Thom IV (6/26), Haley Camino (6/26), Kevin Rubottom (6/26),  
Mark Jones (6/27), Dominic Sarantha (6/27), Drew Drury (6/28),  
Seanna Walker (6/28), Jerry Cross (6/29), Dirk Millhouse (6/29),  
Nicky Carpenter (6/29), John Griffith (6/30), & David Palmerlee (6/30).

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

*"Give them grace, when they hurt each other, to recognize and  
acknowledge their fault, and to seek each other's forgiveness and  
yours."*

...BCP page 429



Mr. & Mrs. Rob Benjamin (6/1)  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Hanson (6/4)  
Dr. & Mrs. Bill Novotny (6/9)  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Kessler (6/9)  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Monk (6/12)

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Ostheimer (6/23)  
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Rogers (6/27)  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Odell (6/28)  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ross (6/29)



### WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

(The following folks were baptized during the month of June.)

*"One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism; one God and Father of all."* ...BCP p. 299

Dr. Geoffrey Sherman (1979)  
Lauren Money (6/3)  
Chris Joy (6/5)  
Megan Boggs (6/6)  
Chris Goddard (6/8)

Ed Burnett (6/8)  
Ray Holt (6/18)  
McKinley Jo Kessler (6/21)  
Jenna Anderson (6/25)



### ST. LUKE'S SAYS "FAREWELL"



**MICHAEL JOHN  
HIZA**

9?08/1931—4/17/2015

Condolences can be  
sent to:

Michael D. Hiza  
c/o Harness Funeral  
Home.

\*\*\*\*\*



*"Memories*

*are*

*one gift*

*of*

*God*

*that*

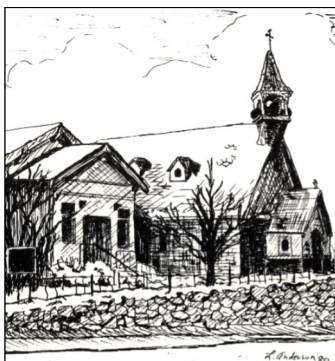
*death cannot*

*destroy."*

*...borrowed*

**PRAYER FOR  
ST. LUKE'S**

*Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



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**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Fr. Doug Wasinger



**Sunday, June 5**

8 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist  
9 A.M. Adult Bible Study

**Sunday, June 12**

8 & 10 A.M. AnteCommunion  
9 A.M. Adult Study CANCELED

**Sunday, June 19**

**Father's Day**

8 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist  
9 A.M. Adult Bible Study

**Sunday, June 26**

8 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist  
9 A.M. Adult Bible Study

**Each Wednesday**

7 A.M. Holy Eucharist



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**June, 2016**



**"...things that  
we have  
heard and known,  
that  
our ancestors  
have told us.  
We  
will not hide them  
from  
our children;  
we will tell  
to the  
coming generation  
the  
glorious deeds  
of the Lord,  
and his might,  
and  
the wonders that  
he has done."**

**...Psalm 78:3-4**

